

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT, DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATION

As there are no drawings, there are no amendments to drawings.

There are no amendments to the Abstract.

Please amend the Specification by substitution of the amended paragraphs presented below for the paragraphs of like identification number currently present in the application.

[0006] Another significant situation in which floral displays must be maintained with a fresh appearance in an adverse environment is the use of floral displays in awards or similar ceremonies, where usually there is an elevated temperature level because of the presence of extensive high-powered lighting, such as when such ceremonies are being televised or when the displays are used in theatrical productions. Similarly, in environments where the humidity is low, foliage tends to wilt. In cases such as highly lighted events, the heat of the lights often also ~~acerbates~~ exacerbates the dryness of the ambient air, thus compounding the floral deterioration problem.

[0025] The polymer latex is the principal component of the compositions. Numerous types of polymer latexes are acceptable. The particular latex selected must rapidly and substantially completely spread as a thin coating film over the surface of the foliage, such as across the surface of a leaf or a flower petal, without significantly changing the shape of the leaf or petal, discoloring it, or otherwise detracting from the natural appearance of the foliage, and then must rapidly set so as to maintain the appearance of the flowers or display in that configuration that existed at the time of coating. It is preferred that the latex be formed from a non-rubber polymer; the rubber latexes do not normally form sufficiently thin coatings to allow maintenance of the natural appearance of the foliage. Further, the coating must be such that if the plant is live, the coating ~~with~~ will eventually come off the plant surfaces, either spontaneously or by being wiped off by a cleaner or solvent, without ultimate harm to the live plant.